

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 ALGIER 03243 311742Z  
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05  
H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01  
SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /079 W  
-----051488 312229Z /73

R 311036Z DEC 77  
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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7731  
INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN  
AMEMBASSY ACCRA  
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA  
AMEMBASSY DAKAR  
AMEMBASSY LAGOS  
AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE  
AMEMBASSY LOME  
AMEMBASSY MADRID  
AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
AMEMBASSY RABAT  
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GERMANY

C O N F I D E N T I A L ALGIERS 3243

CINCEUR FOR POLAD

E. O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PDIP, XA, AG, SS  
SUBJ: ALGIERS-BASED AFRICAN AMBASSADORS ON WESTERN SAHARA AND LIFE  
IN ALGIERS

1. AT ANNUAL END-OF-YEAR DINNER GIVEN BY AFRICAN AMBASSADORS, CONSENSUS IN DISCUSSIONS OF WESTERN SAHARA WAS THAT MOST AFRICAN GOVERNMENTS RELUCTANT TO COOPERATE WITH GOA ON CALLING OF SPECIAL OAU SESSION ON PROBLEM. AFRICANS FEEL GOA ONLY PUTS ON ITS AFRICAN "FACE" WHEN IT NEEDS AFRICAN SUPPORT. AT OTHER TIMES GOA IGNORES AFRICAN GOVERNMENTS AND, ESPECIALLY, AFRICAN DIPLOMATS IN  
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ALGIERS.

2. ASIDE FROM TURKISH AMBASSADOR WHO IS DEAN OF DIPLOMATIC CORPS, I WAS ONLY NON-AFRICAN AMBASSADOR INVITED TO ATTEND DINNER AT HOME OF GHANAIAAN AMBASSADOR (PRESIDENT OF INFORMAL AFRICAN AMBASSADORS GROUP). FOUR ALGERIANS PRESENT INCLUDED DIRECTOR GENERAL OF POLITICAL AFFAIRS OF MFA BOUSSELHAM (FORMER ALGERIAN AMBASSADOR TO

IVORY COAST), DIRECTOR GENERAL OF PROTOCOL IN MFA LAALA (ONLY BLACK ALGERIAN I HAVE YET TO SEE IN HIGH LEVEL GOVERNMENT POST), DIRECTOR OF OFFICE AFRICAN AFFAIRS AND HIS ASSISTANT.

3. AFRICAN AMBASSADORS AND THEIR WIVES SPENT MUCH OF TIME AT DINNER GRUMBLING AMONG THEMSELVES OVER THEIR UNHAPPINESS AT HAVING TO SERVE IN ALGIERS.

4. COMMENT: AFRICAN DIPLOMATS AND THEIR FAMILIES HERE IN ALGIERS HAVE LEGITIMATE REASON TO COMPLAIN OF THEIR OFFICIAL AND UNOFFICIAL TREATMENT AT HANDS OF ALGERIANS. AFRICAN AMBASSADORS HAVE LITTLE TO REPORT BACK TO THEIR CAPITALS (EXCEPT WHAT THEY READ IN NEWS-PAPER AND OBSERVE FIRST-HAND) AS THEY ARE RARELY TAKEN INTO CONFIDENCE BY GOA OFFICIALS. WIVES AND CHILDREN SUFFER MOST FROM RACIST COMMENTS AND TREATMENT AS THEY CIRCULATE IN LOCAL MARKETS AND SCHOOLS.

AS A RESULT, MOST AFRICAN DIPLOMATS HAVE LITTLE SYMPATHY FOR GOA POSITIONS ON VARIOUS MATTERS OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS. HAYNES

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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